

CLAIMS

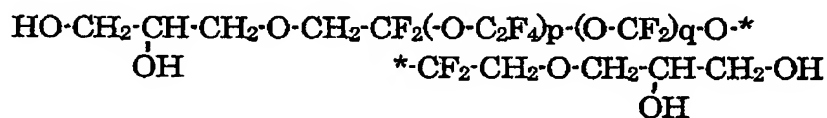
[1] A method for producing a lubricant used to form a lubricating layer on a magnetic disk, the method comprising a step of degassing a crude lubricant containing at least one perfluoropolyether and a step of purifying the resulting crude lubricant.

[2] A method for producing a lubricant used to form a lubricating layer on a magnetic disk, the method comprising a step of purifying a liquid crude lubricant containing at least one perfluoropolyether by vaporizing the crude lubricant and then liquefying the vapor of the perfluoropolyether within a distance less than the mean free path of molecules of the perfluoropolyether.

[3] The method according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the purifying step is performed under vacuum conditions.

[4] The method according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein the lubricant contains at least one compound represented by the following formula:

[C1]



[wherein p and q represent natural numbers]

[5] A lubricant, produced by the method according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, having a weight-average molecular weight of 4000 to 8000 and a molecular weight distribution of 1 to 1.3.

[6] The lubricant according to Claim 5, wherein the content of the perfluoropolyether in the lubricant is greater than 85%, when the content is measured by nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy.

[7] A magnetic disk comprising at least a magnetic layer, a protective layer, and a lubricating layer on a substrate, wherein the lubricating layer is formed by

applying the lubricant produced on the protective layer by the method according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 or by applying the lubricant according to Claim 5 or 6.

[8] The magnetic disk according to Claim 7, wherein the magnetic disk is installed in a load/unload-type magnetic disk drive.

[9] A method for manufacturing a magnetic disk, comprising a step of forming a magnetic layer, a carbonaceous protective layer, and a lubricating layer on a substrate in that order, wherein the carbonaceous protective layer is formed by a plasma-enhanced CVD method and the lubricating layer is formed using the lubricant produced by the method according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 or the lubricant according to Claim 5 or 6.

[10] The process according to Claim 9, wherein the magnetic disk is installed in a load/unload-type magnetic disk drive.

[11] A lubricant, used to form a lubricating layer on a magnetic disk, containing a perfluoropolyether and having a molecular weight distribution of 1 to 1.3 or less.

[12] The lubricant according to Claim 11, wherein the weight-average molecular weight thereof is 4000 to 8000.

[13] The lubricant according to Claim 11 or 12, further containing a compound that has a perfluoropolyether chain and a hydroxyl group bonded thereto.

[14] A magnetic disk comprising a lubricating layer formed on a surface by the use of the lubricant produced by the method according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 or the lubricant according to Claim 5 or 6 or the lubricant according to any one of Claim 11 to 13.

[15] The magnetic disk according to Claim 14, wherein the magnetic disk is installed in a magnetic disk drive including a magnetic head including a negative pressure slider.